

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

- 5 1. A method for processing a teleconference, said method comprising:

connecting a plurality of participants together in a
teleconference;
10 detecting when a first participant of said participants has become disconnected from said teleconference;

making a recording of teleconference content while said
15 first participant is disconnected from said teleconference.

2. The method as set forth in claim 1 and further including making said recording available to said first participant when said first participant is re-connected to said
20 teleconference.

3. The method as set forth in claim 1 wherein said teleconference is an audio teleconference.

25 4. The method as set forth in claim 3 wherein said first participant is using a cell phone.

5. The method as set forth in claim 1 wherein said teleconference is a video teleconference.
30
6. The method as set forth in claim 1 wherein said participants are connected through a telephone company to a

teleconference center, said recording being made by said telephone company.

7. The method as set forth in claim 1 wherein said
5 participants are connected through a telephone company to a teleconference center, said recording being made by said teleconference center.

8. The method as set forth in claim 1 and further including
10 said first participant sending a connection signal while said first participant is connected to said teleconference, said detecting being accomplished by detecting a loss of said connection signal.

15 9. The method as set forth in claim 8 wherein said connection signal is a non-audible signal.

10. The method as set forth in claim 1 and further including
20 playing pre-recorded messages into said teleconference content upon an occurrence of predetermined events associated with said pre-recorded messages.

11. The method as set forth in claim 10 wherein one of said
pre-recorded messages announces a disconnection of said
25 first participant when said first participant becomes disconnected from said teleconference.

12. The method as set forth in claim 11 wherein said re-
connection message announces a re-connection of said first
30 participant to said teleconference in real time.

13. The method as set forth in claim 11 wherein one of said pre-recorded messages announces a re-connection of said first participant to an incoming line to said teleconference and is currently playing back said recording of content missed while said first participant was disconnected from
5 said teleconference.

14. The method as set forth in claim 13 and further including enabling one of said plurality of participants to
10 selectively re-connect said first participant to said real-time teleconference.

15. The method as set forth in claim 1 and further including a selective playing of said recording in one or more
15 playback speeds.

16. The method as set forth in claim 15 and further including displaying indicia representative of progress of playing back said recording relative to total time of said
20 recording.

17. The method as set forth in claim 1 wherein said teleconference is an audio teleconference and said first participant is using a telephone to connect to said
25 teleconference, said method further including:

saving caller identification and teleconference information in memory within said telephone used by said first participant upon connecting to said teleconference; and
30

accessing said caller identification and teleconference information from said first participant's telephone in re-

connecting said first participant to said teleconference after said first participant has become disconnected from said teleconference.

5 18. A teleconferencing system comprising:

a teleconference center for processing a plurality of interconnected participants;

10 a telephone company equipment center including a telephone switching system for connecting said participants to said teleconference center;

detecting means for detecting when a first participant of
15 said participants has become disconnected from said teleconference; and

recording means for making a recording of teleconference content while said first participant is disconnected from
20 said teleconference.

19. The system as set forth in claim 18 wherein said detecting means and said recording means are located at said teleconference center.

25

20. The system as set forth in claim 18 wherein said detecting means and said recording means are located at said telephone company equipment center.

30